(c) At present there are 15(13 PHWRs and 2 Boiling Water Reactors) power reactor in operation with a total capacity of 3360 MWe. In addition, five Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) and two Light Water Reactors (LWRs) are under construction.

A beginning to the second stage programme has been made with the start of construction of 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu.

The third stage of the programme will be launched after sufficient base capacity of the second stage FBRs are put in operation. A technology demonstration project - Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) is planned for construction to move forward on technologies for Thorium utilisation and innovative reactor systems. A small research reactor Kalpakkam Mini Reactor (KAMINI) of third stage is already in operation.

Reserves of Uranium of Orissa

†2712. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge reserve of Uranium has been discovered in the Vemlagarh and Sayamba, region of the Sundargarh district of Orissa;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a team of scientists is making efforts to discover and calculate the availability of the huge potential of Uranium reserve; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) Hyderabad, a constituent Unit of the Department of Atomic Energy has located a few occurrences of uranium near Sayamba and Taladih in Sundergarh District, Orissa where detailed exploration programme is being undertaken. The lead time after locating uranium anomalies to establish a uranium deposit in an area is generally 8-10 years depending on the complexity/nature of mineralization. The potential of these areas would be known only after completion of exloration activities.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.